



4 ASOG AIR OPERATIONS PROGRAM

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This instruction establishes broad guidance for scheduling and managing air training events for 4th Air Support Operations Group (4 ASOG) personnel. Specific procedures will be defined by action agencies. This instruction establishes 4 ASOG Scheduling (4 ASOG/DOS) as the primary scheduling point of contact and liaison between 4 ASOG and USAFE flying units. The 4 ASOG/DOS is also the primary liaison between 4 ASOG and the various North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) scheduling agencies. The 4 ASOG/DOS is the primary facilitator for 4 ASOG scheduling air assets for US Army V Corps, 7th Army Training Command (ATC), and Southern European Task Force (SETAF). The 4 ASOG/DOS will schedule and manage all air support for all 7th ATC training ranges, including Hohenfels and Grafenwoehr Training Areas. 4th Air Support Operations Squadron, Scheduling branch (4 ASOG/DOS) will manage the day-to-day execution of the flying schedule in support of 4 ASOG activities.

Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. Purpose. The purpose of this instruction is to outline 4th Air Support Operations Group Commander (4 ASOG/CC) guidance for scheduling air training events for 4 ASOG personnel. The 4th Air Support Operations Group Scheduling (4 ASOG/DOS) is the primary point of contact and facilitator for obtaining and scheduling Close Air Support (CAS) training for all 4 ASOG controller personnel.

1.2. Successful Training Program. The linchpin to a successful training program is an aggressive desire to seek out and exploit all available opportunities. When coupled with firm leadership at all levels that ensures the coordination among all participants occurs, it guarantees a mission-ready force. The scheduling and command and control functions is performed by the 4 ASOG/DOS are crucial to success. Also critical is the degree to which fielded TACPs keep 4 ASOG/DOSA informed as to what is happening while they are out of garrison. Training opportunities are limited – they cannot and will not be wasted. It is *everyone's* responsibility to make sure they are not.

Chapter 2 4 ASOG SCHEDULING RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. 4 ASOG Director of Operations. The 4 ASOG Director of Operations (4 ASOG/DO) has overall responsibility and oversight of all operations training events for all 4 ASOG personnel. The 4 ASOG/DO, at his/her discretion, may delegate or rescind tasks described herein to subordinate units as deemed beneficial to the combat readiness of the Terminal Attack Controller (TAC) force.

2.1.1. The 4 ASOG/DO, through the 4 ASOG/DOS, schedules and coordinates all controller training opportunities. Once the initial coordination has been made the 4 ASOG/DO may delegate some or all of the final coordination to a subordinate unit. All 4 ASOG personnel must make the 4 ASOG/DO aware of any training opportunities that would benefit 4 ASOG personnel.

2.1.2. The 4 ASOG/DO will be the final approval authority for prioritizing the overall group air training requests .

2.2. 4 ASOG Scheduling (4 ASOG/DOS) is responsible for the following:

2.2.1. Coordinating and scheduling all aircraft in support of TAC training and exercises.

2.2.2. Consolidating all air requests for training.

2.2.3. Attending the USAFE CAS/JAAT conference as the 4 ASOG representative.

2.2.4. Publish a quarterly schedule based on the CAS/JAAT conference

2.2.4.1 Ensure that the quarterly 4 ASOG schedule is sent to the 32 AOC and if need be, ensure any training with non-USAFE based aircraft is included into the daily ATO.

2.2.5. The 4 ASOG/DOS will track training accomplished and schedule activities to ensure equitable and optimal allocation of training resources.

2.2.6. Publish a weekly master schedule, which will match TACP units and individual names to the various missions. The weekly schedule for the following week will be distributed to the other 4 ASOG units by 1200L each Friday.

2.2.7. The range control function for the Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) missions using the Grafenwoehr or Hohenfels Ranges is normally accomplished by Detachment 2, 4 ASOG and Detachment 3, 4 ASOG, respectively. This function will only be performed by 4 ASOS when specifically coordinated with the 4 ASOS/DO.

2.3. 4 ASOS Air Operations Branch (4 ASOS/DOA) is responsible for executing the weekly schedule. They will:

2.3.1. Coordinate with fly units whenever air is flying to coordinate updates between the pilots and controllers.

2.3.2. Maintain a long distance communications capability to terminal attack controllers whenever aircraft are supporting 4 ASOG units. The 4th Air Support Operations Squadron will maintain SATCOM, HF, and cell phone communications in that order of priority.

2.3.3. Attend the USAFE CAS/JAAT conference as the 4 ASOS representative.

2.3.4. Ensure changes made to the quarterly 4 ASOG schedule by the 4 ASOS are communicated to both the 4 ASOG and 32 AOC so that the ATO is published with correct information.

2.3.5. Coordinate with the 32 Air Operations Squadron (AOS) and flying unit to ensure that the REMARKS section of the ATO contains all required CAS/TAC/ASOS information for clarity. If need be, 4 ASOS can also coordinate with the 32 AOS direct for ATO inputs with proper coordination with 4 ASOG/DOS for CAS/TAC/ASOS training to include Type 3 controls with any flying squadron

- 2.3.6. Publish a monthly schedule detailing:
- Number and type of aircraft
 - Sorties flown
 - Controls and passes

2.4. 4 ASOG Detachments.

2.4.1. Detachment 1, 4 ASOG at Vicenza, Italy, is responsible for scheduling its own local air control training in Italy. Any 4 ASOG unit from Germany obtaining air control training in Italy will coordinate with Detachment 1, 4 ASOG prior to arrival in Italy to ensure compliance with local directives. Detachment 1, 4 ASOG will coordinate any air control training in Germany with the 4 ASOG/DOS prior to arrival in Germany (this includes training at either Grafenwoehr or Hohenfels Ranges).

2.4.2. Detachment 2, 4 ASOG is the point of contact for all aircraft and TACPs using Grafenwoehr Range. All personnel planning on controlling aircraft at Grafenwoehr Range will coordinate scheduling and operational issues with Detachment 2, 4 ASOG prior to proceeding to the Control Point to ensure compliance with local directives.

2.4.3. Detachment 3, 4 ASOG is the point of contact for all aircraft and TACPs using Hohenfels Range. All personnel planning on controlling aircraft at Hohenfels Range will coordinate scheduling and operational issues with Detachment 3, 4 ASOG prior to proceeding to the Control Point to ensure compliance with local directives.

2.4.4. The 4 ASOG/DOS will coordinate with Detachment 2, 4 ASOG and Detachment 3, 4 ASOG to maximize TACP use of air assets at Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels Ranges. Detachments 2 and 3, 4 ASOG schedule the range periods for aircraft using their respective ranges. By COB each Thursday, Detachments 2 and 3 will update 4 ASOG/DOS information related to aircraft requiring CAS controllers at the ranges.

2.5. Squadrons. Squadrons will:

- 2.5.1. Coordinate air training requirements with 4 ASOG/DOS.
- 2.5.2. Report training status to group staff per the training instruction. The group staff will use this information to determine training goals and strategies and prioritize available training aircraft and match these assets with units needing controls within Germany. Squadrons and detachments will forward their scheduling inputs to the 4 ASOG/DOS quarterly, with monthly updates.
- 2.5.3. Forward prioritized air training requests to 4 ASOG/DOS quarterly NLT two weeks prior to the CAS/JAAT conference.

Chapter 3 REQUEST PROCEDURES

3.1. Units requesting air assets for training will use the following procedures:

- 3.1.1 Squadrons will consolidate air training requests for the next quarter. 4 ASOG detachments 1, 2, and 3 will forward all their requests directly to 4 ASOG/DOS.
- 3.1.2. Squadrons will prioritize the requests for each month of the quarter based on training and evaluation requirements.

3.1.3. Squadrons will forward the prioritized requests to 4 ASOG/DOS.

3.1.4. 4 ASOG/DOS will consolidate all air training requests for the group and prioritize them based on guidance provided by the 4 ASOG/DO.

3.1.5. 4 ASOG/DOS will forward the finalized air request list to HQUSAFE/DOT prior to the CAS/JAAT conference.

3.1.6. 4 ASOG/DOS or their designated representative will attend the quarterly USAFE CAS/JAAT conference to coordinate fighter wing participation.

3.2. Support for Army Exercises.

3.2.1. Requests will be sent through the supporting ASOS to 4 ASOG/DO.

3.2.2. Requests for support must include the following items:

3.2.2.1. Date

3.2.2.2. Unit supported

3.2.2.3. Type of support requested

3.2.2.4. With or without ordnance

3.2.2.5. Location

3.2.2.6. Time frame (Zulu)

3.2.2.7. Day/Night

3.2.2.8. Point of Contact (e-mail and telephone)

3.2.3. The requesting 4 ASOG unit will provide updates to 4 ASOG/DOS and coordinate all activity with the supported Army unit.

3.2.4. A final report/after action report (AAR) for any deployment or joint training event will be provided by the sponsoring 4 ASOG unit to 4 ASOG/DO. 4 ASOG/DO will forward the AAR to other units and agencies (e.g. BCE/BCD, 3 AF, USAFE, V Corps, USAREUR), as required. All units will maintain a historical copy of AARs for at least one year.

Chapter 4 OPERATIONS

4.1. Air Support Operations Center (ASOC). The 4 ASOS/DOA ASOC function will be manned two hours prior to the first scheduled TOT until one hour after the last TOT (adjusted according to actual flying activity). The 4 ASOS/DOA personnel will be available during normal duty hours at the 4 ASOS to coordinate scheduling matters regardless of scheduled flight operations. The 4 ASOS/DOA will establish and maintain radio and/or telephonic communications two hours prior to the first time over target (TOT) until one hour after the end of the last scheduled TOT, or later if needed to accommodate schedule slips

with the TACs controlling air. 4 Air Support Operations Squadron will maintain SATCOM, HF, and cell phone communications in that order of priority. The 4 ASOS/DOA will be ready to receive and forward any changes that affect the mission, e.g. weather, safety situations, mission aborts, to all participating agencies. The 4 ASOS/DOA will obtain all required short-notice changes from the unit flying the daily CAS missions and pass pertinent information to the 4 ASOG TACPs operating in the field. Likewise, 4 ASOS/DOA is responsible for passing any changes in TACP status to the flying units as soon as they are notified of those changes. The daily TOT window and Fighter Duty Technician (FDT) schedule will be clearly posted on the weekly schedule.

4.2. TACP/4 ASOS communication. ASOC will maintain SATCOM, HF, and cell phone comms in that order of priority. TACPs will travel enroute to training areas with a usable cellular phone to enhance safety, ensure adequate command and control, and facilitate successful mission accomplishment. TACPs will mission plan to arrive at the prescribed training area a minimum of one hour prior to the first scheduled TOT. Upon arrival at the training area, TACPs will contact 4 ASOS/DOA and pass Situation Report, a weather report, and 8001 updates (if required) for the mission. After the mission has been accomplished, TACPs notify 4 ASOS/DOA when departing the observation post with the number and type of aircraft used, number of controls, and number of passes. The senior ranking or most experienced controller will attempt to debrief the aircrews prior to the aircraft leaving the target area; if post-mission radio contact cannot be made with the aircrews, the controller will contact the aircrews no later than one duty day after the TOT and include debrief comments in the AAR, if applicable.

WILLIAM R. TRAVNICK, Colonel, USAF
Commander

Attachments:

1. CAS Scheduling Coordination Sheet

CAS SCHEDULING COORDINATION SHEET			
Requestor Organization:			
Training event Location:			
Date/Time of Training Event:			
Priority:			
Name/Title:			
Army Unit POC:			
Air Force Unit POC:			
Army Ground Liaison Officer/NCO:			
Air Liaison Officer:			
100 ARW Needed?	Yes		No
100 ARW POC:			
Date			
AR CT			
Track			
Offload			
Receiver # & Type			
Questions: Contact 4 ASOG, Scheduling DSN370-5982			